

This command of Jehovah is not of a carnal and local, but of a moral and universal character. As long as the distinctions between right and wrong, between good and evil, are in existence so long will the obligations of morality and religion bind men to do good, and refrain from doing evil. If it is wrong for the Hebrew nation to do evil, it is wrong for the American nation to do evil; and if the Hebrew nation might not do evil with the multitude in the same command, with at least equal obligations and motives, so might the American Christians.

There are in our land many evils.—

There is one, however, which Christians and patriots are peculiarly related, which may justly be designated the parent of all evils.

My hearers will not need to be informed that it is *Human Slavery*. Not the

enslavement of a few hundreds or thousands, but the enslavement of three millions.

The soul in six in our borders, is

a slave, a chattel, and sold as a beast

of burden. The most strenuous apostles

for Slavery, admit it to be an evil.

It is granted, then, that the bondage

of men and women, and children

who have done no wrong and put

themselves to the taskmasters to do

what they might beam in upon their

prisoners—to take the cable and seal it

upon their eyes—to deprive them of

the Gospel, or give them just enough of it

to make them despise their slaveholding

professors—to crush the body—to crush

the intellect—to crush the heart with

social and spiritual calamities, the word,

to wrest from us, which we ourselves

prize, a life, *Human Liberty*—this

is merely an evil—it is a monstrous

evil—implacable in no slight measure all

who directly or indirectly it supports.

American Slavery is an *extensive evil*.—

The *morality* of the nation is corrupted by it.

Its effect upon Slaveholders is evil.

It induces idleness and vice, is directly

designed to undermine every virtuous and

worthy principle in themselves and in

their children. It is the parent of all

breaking, Intemperance, Lasciviousness.

The underhand system of duelling

and assassination, and can be sustained

only in an atmosphere of Slavery.

The Religion of the nation is corrupted and dishonored by it.

The church of God has found Slavery a *bitter evil*.

It is weakened, and is weakening her

moral power to a lamentable degree. Slavery has devised, I know not what magics,

to enchain, with some plausible exceptions, to hold in its service Religious

Editors and Ministers, most solemnly

bound by the terms of their commission to preach deliverance to the captive?

The pall of declension and darkness

seems drawn over the whole body of the

church, and with all deference, I submit

the question to our Professors and Divines

“What sit in Moses’s seat,” and mould minds

committed to their charge, whether the

hand of God is on them at this time

because of her “consent” unto this

great sin of oppression?

If the question of the continuance or removal of Ameri-

can Slavery, be the great problem for this

nation to solve; and if the church of

Christ always has taken, and from the

nature of the case always must take, the lead

in every great moral enterprise—and

God blesses his people, in proportion to

their faithful discharge of duty, I submit

that these masters and Christians of this

land, when they are to do it, the Zion will

be arrayed to do it, and the church, and the

tributaries with their bloody hands, the em-

bodiment of our crucified Redeemer?

The Politics of our country are all rot-

ten with slavery.

The dark genius of

Tyranny has polluted the government of

the State. Oracle of the land talk on

blushingly of slavery—the “basis” of our

free institutions—as a thing “sanctified

by a precedence of two hundred years

and more to speak upon Human Liberty, and

temple the petitions of their free consti-

tutes under its feet—sustain slavery and

the slave—Trade in the District of Colum-

bia—the very seat of Government, and

where Congress has, confessedly, full jurisdiction.

The publick principles of the Government are to put the people in safe keeping,

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